

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

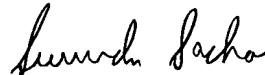
Favorable consideration of this application, as presently amended, is respectfully requested.

By the present preliminary amendment the specification is amended to correct minor informalities. The changes made to the specification are not deemed to raise any issues of new matter.

The present application is believed to be in condition for a full and thorough examination on the merits. An early and favorable consideration of the present application is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Bradley D. Lytle
Registration No. 40,073

Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 06/04)
SNS/rac

Surinder Sachar
Registration No. 34,423

I:\ATTY\SNS\273067US-PR.DOC